

Chicago Prosecutor Rebuffed by Bar

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CHICAGO, Aug. 25 (UPI)—The Chicago Bar Association demanded today that State's Attorney Edward V. Hanrahan take a leave of absence until he is tried on criminal charges of conspiring with 13 others to obstruct justice following a 1969 raid on a Black Panther headquarters.

Police organizations rallied to provide financial, legal and moral support for 12 policemen named with Hanrahan and one of his assistant state's attorneys in an indictment opened Tuesday.

The special county grand jury charged that Hanrahan, recently considered a comer in the Democratic organization of Mayor Richard J. Daley, and the others conspired to destroy, alter, conceal and disguise evidence and planted false evidence to vindicate police behavior.

Two leaders of the Panther Party in Illinois were shot to

death during the predawn raid Dec. 4, 1969, on the west side apartment.

Police Superintendent James B. Conlisk Jr., a Daley appointee, two other policemen and two state's attorneys were named as unindicted co-conspirators by the grand jury.

The Chicago Bar Association urged Hanrahan and the others charged to take leaves of absence pending the outcome of the case. It also urged Chief Criminal Court Judge Joseph A. Power, a former law partner of Daley, to step out of the case and asked that a judge from another county preside over further sessions in the case.

Power had suppressed the indictment since June 25 but opened it Tuesday on orders of the Illinois Supreme Court.

Hanrahan had no immediate comment. But he had said Tuesday, "I have done abso-

lutely nothing wrong. I want a full and open hearing as soon as possible so the public can have that demonstrated in court."

A police department spokesman said no immediate actions were taken against the indicted policemen.

Joseph J. Lefevour, president of the Chicago chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, said at a news conference, "under American law, every man is innocent until proven guilty. We will assume the police are innocent until they are proven otherwise."

He said he had been promised support of FOP chapters across the nation and the local group will support the indicted policemen "in every possible way, financially, legally and morally."

"We just want to make sure they have a fair day in court," Lefevour said.

Daley had no direct com-

ment on continued support of Hanrahan, but said Tuesday, "This is an indictment. Where is the evidence? Where is the obstruction of justice?"

But some political observers began writing Hanrahan's political epitaph, predicting the Democratic organization would dump him at slatemaking time—just three months away. Hanrahan is up for reelection in 1972, if he is re-nominated.